

PURFLEET
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ending 31st Dec., 1935.

GRAYS.
John Higgins, Printing Contractor.

1936

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health :

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., Ch.B. (Vict.), D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

K. N. MAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

L. CULLIS,

Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute and Smoke
Inspector, Certified Meat Inspector and Officer
under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

Chief Clerk :

R. C. GILBERT.

Clerical Assistant :

Miss P. SMITHSON.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health to the adjoining Urban Districts of Grays, Tilbury, and the surrounding Rural District of Orsett, and School Medical Inspector and District Tuberculosis Officer for these districts.

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health to the same districts, and School Medical Inspector and District Tuberculosis Officer to these districts under the Essex County Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GLASSON HOUSE,
HIGH STREET,
GRAYS.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Purfleet
Urban District Council.**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Seventh Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the district.

Owing to the formation of the Thurrock Urban District, my Report this year is extremely brief, and with the permission of the Minister of Health, figures compiled locally have been used for statistical purposes so that it may be completed before the 31st March, 1936.

I do not propose this year to enter upon the figures given in the Report, which I hope will prove self-explanatory.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for the co-operation which has been given to me during my seven years of office.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. T. G. BOUL, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The statistics and social conditions of the area have been outlined in my previous Reports and there is no alteration requiring comment.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------------|
| Area.... | .... | 8899 acres. |
| Population (Local estimate, 1935) | .... | 8825 |
| No. of Inhabited Houses, 31/12/35 | .... | 2321 |
| Rateable Value, 31/12/35 | .... | £76,723 |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate | .... | £295 |

VITAL STATISTICS.

| LIVE BIRTHS. | M. | F. | Total |
|---|----|----|-------|
| Legitimate | 73 | 79 | 152 |
| Illegitimate | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| | | | 156 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 17·7 | | | |

| | M. | F. | Total |
|--|------|------|-------|
| STILLBIRTHS | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births | .... | .... | 12·8 |

| | M. | F. | Total |
|--|----|----|-------|
| DEATHS | 44 | 25 | 69 |
| Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 7·7 | | | |

| DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES— | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| Puerperal Sepsis | Nil | Nil |
| Other Puerperal causes | Nil | Nil |

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :

| | | |
|---|------|-----------|
| All Infants per 1,000 live births | .... | 50·1 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | | 40·6 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | | 250· |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | .... | Nil |
| „ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) | .... | Nil |
| „ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | .... | Nil |
| The principal causes of death were :— | | |
| Heart Disease | .... | 19 or 28% |
| Cancer | .... | 9 or 28% |

AGES AT DEATH.

| | | |
|--------------|------|----|
| Under 1 year | .... | 8 |
| 1— 2 years | .... | 0 |
| 2— 5 „ | .... | 4 |
| 5—15 „ | .... | 1 |
| 15—25 „ | .... | 4 |
| 25—35 „ | .... | 3 |
| 35—45 „ | .... | 3 |
| 45—55 „ | .... | 4 |
| 55—65 „ | .... | 7 |
| 65—75 „ | .... | 18 |
| 75 upwards | .... | 17 |

Approximately 51% of the total deaths occurred in persons over the age of sixty-five years.

COMPARISON OF VARIOUS STATISTICS.

| | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 |
|--------------------------|----------|------|------|------|
| Population | ... 8725 | 8807 | 8780 | 8825 |
| Number of Births | 168 | 160 | 159 | 156 |
| Birth Rate | ... 19·2 | 18·2 | 18·1 | 17·7 |
| Death Rate | ... 9·6 | 10·0 | 9·6 | 7·7 |
| Infantile Mortality Rate | 41·6 | 50·0 | 31·4 | 50·1 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i.) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

The Public Health Officers of the Local Authority are enumerated at the commencement of this Report.

(ii) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These were outlined in my Report for 1934, and no change has taken place.

2. AMBULANCE FACILITIES. (i) *Infectious Disease.*

The arrangements were given in my Report for 1934. There has been no change.

(ii.) *Accident and Non-Infectious cases.*

These details were given in my Report for 1934. The hire charges are very moderate and I am indebted to J. T. Kelley, Esq., for the following information.

| | | Cases. | Total Mileage. |
|----------------|------|--------|----------------|
| Road accidents | .... | 45 | 646 |
| Sick removals | .... | 875 | 19,917 |

During the year under review arrangements have been made between the Local Authority and the St. John Ambulance Brigade in regard to the reciprocal use of Ambulances, and a new ambulance has been purchased.

3. NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Grays and District Nursing Association, the 28th Nursing Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the Medical Comforts Committee have continued their useful work during the year, and particulars concerning their activities will be found in my previous Reports.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

| ADDRESS. | HOURS. | NOTES. |
|--|---|---|
| MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE: (1) Parish Room, West Thurrock (2) British School, South Ockendon (3) Welfare Hall, Purfleet (4) Church Rooms, High Street, Aveley | 1st and 3rd Mondays at 3 p.m. Medical Officer attends every 4th Monday at 2 p.m. Health Visitor attends every 2nd Monday at 2 p.m. Alternate Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. Alternate Fridays at 2 p.m. | Nos. 1 and 2 are provided by the Essex County Council. Voluntary Centre. Voluntary Centre. |
| ANTE NATAL CLINIC: Parish Room, West Thurrock | 2nd Monday at 2.15 p.m. | Provided by Essex County Council. |
| MINOR AILMENT TREATMENT CENTRE: Glasson House, High Street, Grays * EYE CLINIC: Glasson House, High Street, Grays * DENTAL CLINIC: Welfare Centre, The Park, Grays | Routine Treatment, every Morning Medical Officer, Wednesdays at 9.15 a.m. Tuesday 9.15 a.m., and as required. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 9.15 a.m. | Provided by Essex County Council, the Medical Officer of Health, as the School Medical Inspector, supervising the Work. |
| * ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC —Surgeon's Clinic AFTER-CARE CLINIC: Glasson House, High Street, Grays | By arrangement—at intervals of about two months. Tuesdays and Fridays. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 2 p.m. | Clinics provided jointly by Essex County Council and Grays, Orsett, and Tilbury Councils. |
| * DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC: Welfare Centre, The Park, Grays | 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2 p.m. | Clinic provided by Grays U.D. Council. Purfleet patients treated under agreement. |

NOTICES SERVED.

| | Served. | Complied With | Outstanding. |
|----------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Informal | 229 | 190 | 39 |
| Statutory | 1 | 1 | Nil |
| | 230 | 191 | 39 |

LIST OF WORKS EXECUTED.

| | | |
|---|------|-----|
| Rooms in which defective plaster repaired | .... | 65 |
| Defective firegrates repaired or renewed | ... | 37 |
| Floors repaired | .... | 18 |
| Damp walls remedied | .... | 21 |
| Repairs to windows, etc. | .... | 42 |
| Walls cleansed | .... | 37 |
| New sinks provided | .... | 2 |
| Individual water service provided | .... | — |
| Defective roofs repaired | .... | 51 |
| Yards paved | .... | 3 |
| External walls treated | .... | 42 |
| Eaves, gutters and downspouts repaired | .... | 38 |
| Dustbins provided | .... | 33 |
| Sundry defects remedied | .... | 185 |

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(a) INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

| Premises. | In- spections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prose- cuted |
|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Factories (Including Factory Laundries) | 24 | — | — |
| Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) | 14 | — | — |
| Workshops (Other than Outworkers premises) | 5 | — | — |
| Total | 43 | — | — |

(b) DEFECTS FOUND in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

| Particulars. | Number of Defects. | | | Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were Instituted |
|--|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--|
| | Found. | Rem- edied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts —</i> | | | | |
| Want of cleanliness | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Want of ventilation | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding | — | — | — | — |
| Want of drainage of floors | — | — | — | — |
| Other nuisances | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary accommodation— | | | | |
| Insufficient | — | — | — | — |
| Unsuitable or Defective | — | — | — | — |
| Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — |
| <i>Offences under Factory & Workshops Acts—</i> | | | | |
| Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s.101).... | — | — | — | — |
| Other Offences | — | — | — | — |
| [Excluding offences relating to outwork, and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921] | | | | |
| Total | 1 | 1 | — | — |

(iv.) SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The above Act came into force on December 30th, 1934, whereupon an inspection of the district was undertaken. Notwithstanding the somewhat controversial aspect of some of its provisions, no great difficulty has been experienced in its application. The temperature clauses have been administered with due regard to prevailing conditions, no hard and fast rule being adopted. It will readily be understood that the construction of some premises is such that severe temperatures are unlikely to be experienced. I am of opinion that the provisions of this Act are operating within the district.

| | | |
|--|----------|-----|
| Number of shops in the district | .... | 107 |
| „ shops coming within the Act | .... | 70 |
| „ found to be satisfactory upon initial inspection | | 57 |
| „ requiring augmented ventilation | 4 | |
| | Remedied | 4 |
| „ requiring augmented heating | 10 | |
| | Remedied | 10 |
| „ requiring augmented W.C. accom. | | Nil |
| „ of certificates of exemption granted | | 1 |

(v.) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Complaints still continue to be received concerning the amount of grit, ash and sulphurous fumes emitted from various stacks in the district. During the year one large cement works agreed to instal a Lodge-Cottrell Electrostatic Precipitation plant, by which it is hoped the nuisance will be minimised.

(vi.) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no swimming baths in the district.

4. SCHOOLS.

The schools in the district have been commented upon in my previous Reports.

HOUSING.

Despite the importance of this subject, I do not propose to comment upon this matter which has been fully discussed in my previous Reports. The Overcrowding Survey under the Housing Act, 1935, has been completed, and it is hoped that this new legislation will be of great advantage to Public Health authorities.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- | | | |
|---|------|-----------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | .... | ... 259 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | .... | .... 1374 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | ... | 41 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | .... | .... 49 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | ... | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | .... | 259 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

| | | |
|---|------|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | | 253 |
|---|------|-----|

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A) *Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of Housing Act, 1930.*

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority, in default of owners | Nil |

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

(C) *Proceedings under sections 19 & 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

(D). *Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

A. MILK SUPPLY.

| | | |
|--|------|----|
| No. of Milk Producers Registered | .... | 8 |
| „ Inspections made | .... | 46 |
| „ Defects remedied | .... | 4 |
| „ Producers of Grade “A” milk | .... | 6 |
| „ Dairies | .... | 16 |
| „ Milkshops (at which unsealed milk is sold) | | 8 |
| „ Inspections made | .... | 35 |
| „ Retailers of Grade “A” Milk | .... | 3 |
| „ „ „ „ „ (TT) Milk | .... | 3 |
| „ „ „ Pasteurised Milk | .... | 3 |

The conditions under which milk is handled in the Urban District are satisfactory. Four cowsheds were re-paved and channelled during the year. Samples were taken from various producers and retailers. (See following table).

| No. | Designation | Date Sampled | Bacterial count per 1 c.c. | B. Coli present in c.c. |
|-----|-------------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Ordinary | 22/2/35 | 58,000 | Absent in 1 c.c. |
| 2 | „ | „ | 78,000 | 0.1 c.c. |
| 3 | „ | „ | 7,000 | Absent in 1 c.c. |
| 4 | „ | „ | 4,200 | „ „ 1 c.c. |
| 5 | „ | 5/6/35 | 35,000 | 0.1 c.c. |
| 6 | „ | „ | 78,000 | 0.1 c.c. |
| 7 | „ | 21/6/35 | 96,000 | 0.1 c.c. |
| 8 | „ | „ | 184,000 | 0.0001 c.c. |
| 9 | „ | 2/7/35 | 52,000 | 1.0 c.c. |
| 10 | „ | 5/9/35 | 41,000 | 1.0 c.c. |
| 11 | „ | „ | 8,600 | Absent in 1 c.c. |
| 12 | „ | 24/9/35 | 96,000 | 0.1 c.c. |
| 13 | „ | 9/10/35 | 4,800 | Absent in 1 c.c. |

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

| | | |
|---|-------|------------|
| No. of Slaughterhouses Licensed | .... | 5 |
| " Registered | .... | Nil |
| " Inspections made | .... | 633 |
| " " Occasional Slaughter " Notices | | 463 |
| | | Inspected. |
| Number of Cattle | .... | 938 |
| " Calves | .... | 17 |
| " Sheep | .... | 855 |
| " Swine | ... | 1373 |
| " Goats | .... | 5 |
| | | ----- |
| | Total | 3188 |
| | | ----- |

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED.

Meat (approximately) 8980 lbs.

ADULTERATION.

The Essex County Council is the Authority under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928; the Artificial Cream Act, 1929; the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c, in Food) Regulations 1925 and 1927.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

This is carried out at the instance of the Essex County Council by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

NUTRITION.

Periodical articles upon diet, nourishment and general health are contributed to the local Press by the Medical Officer of Health.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1935.

| DISEASE. | Total Cases | Removed to Hospital | Deaths. |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Scarlet Fever.... | 18 | 12 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 20 | 18 | 2 |
| Pneumonia | 4 | — | 2 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | — | 1 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 6 | 1 | — |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... | 3 | 3 | — |
| Total ... | 52 | 34 | 6 |

The district remains comparatively free from infectious disease, especially when it is remembered that there is a large daily influx of workers from other areas into the Urban District.

DIPHTHERIA.

Twenty cases of this disease occurred during the year. This shows a decrease of 6 over the previous year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Eighteen cases of this disease occurred during the year which shows a decrease of 30 over the previous year. The policy of isolating cases at home, where possible, instead of removing them to hospital, continues to justify itself, no evidence being available that secondary cases occur in households where reasonable precautions are taken against the spread of infection.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY: 59 London Road, Grays | Mondays, 4 to 6 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. | Provided by Essex County Council. |
| VENEREAL DISEASES: 22 Cobham Street, Gravesend | Men—Medical Officer, Tuesdays, 11 to 1 p.m. Thursdays, 5 to 6.30 p.m. Intermediate Treatment— Daily, 5.30 to 7 p.m. Saturdays, 12.30 to 2 p.m. Women—Medical Officer, Tuesdays, 1 to 2.30 p.m. Thursdays, 3 to 5 p.m. Intermediate Treatment— Mondays, 9 to 12 noon, and 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesdays, 9 to 12 noon. Fridays, 9 to 12 noon, and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays, 9 to 12 noon. | Provided by Kent County Council. Essex patients treated by agreement. |
| *WOMEN'S WELFARE CENTRE: Welfare Centre, The Park, Grays | 1st & 3rd Thurs. in each month at 6 p.m | Clinic provided by Grays U.D. Council. Patients from Purfleet area treated by arrangement with Essex County Council. |

* Patients attend these Clinics by appointment only. Applications must be made to the Public Health Department.

HOSPITALS.

(a) GENERAL.

Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury.

Details of the accommodation of the Hospital appeared in my Report for last year.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|------|
| No. of new Out-patients | - | - | 4598 |
| „ „ In-patients | - | - | 1450 |
| „ „ Major operations | - | - | 570 |
| „ „ Minor „ | - | - | 150 |

Orsett Public Assistance Institution.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------|------|-----------|
| General Medical | .... | .... | 186 beds. |
| Tuberculosis | .... | .... | 15 „ |
| Isolation | .... | .... | 10 „ |
| Maternity | .... | .... | 7 „ |
| Mental (observation) ... | .... | .... | 7 „ |

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(a) *Isolation Hospital.*

During the year under review the new discharge block containing two four-bedded wards, and day-room, mentioned in my previous Report, was formally opened. There has been no change in the accommodation.

(b) *Smallpox Hospital.*

This information appeared in my Report for 1934.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the School Medical Inspector for the Orsett Sub-District for the year ending 31st December, 1935.

I have pleasure in presenting a Report upon the the working of the School Medical Service of the Orsett Sub-District during 1935.

STAFF.

No alterations have been made in the permanent medical staff, but the consultant staff has been augmented by the appointment of aural and ophthalmic specialists, who have held local clinics from time to time by arrangement with the County Medical Officer.

CLINICS.

A full list of existing minor ailment clinics appeared in last year's Report, and no amendments are necessary.

ACCOMMODATION.

The improved facilities of Glasson House have given satisfaction.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS CLINICS.

| | | | Operations. |
|------|------|------|-------------|
| 1931 | .... | .... | 151 |
| 1932 | .... | .... | 210 |
| 1933 | .... | .... | 81 |
| 1934 | .... | .... | 96 |
| 1935 | .... | .... | 102 |

I have pleasure in acknowledging the services of Drs. Park, Barrow and Hawes under this heading, and of the kindly co-operation of the Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury, in providing free operations in necessitous cases.

VERMINOUS CHILDREN.

This matter was dealt with fully in last year's Report. Good progress has been made, but there are a few persistent defaulters, notably in Tilbury and the adjoining Rural District, who continue to give trouble.

During 1935 one parent was prosecuted three times in respect of offences, and six other parents were brought before the Grays Bench. In each instance a conviction was obtained and a fine imposed.

MINOR AILMENT TREATMENT CLINICS.

Individual children treated—

| | | | Grays | Tilbury | Stanford- le-Hope | Aveley |
|------|------|------|-------|---------|----------------------|--------|
| 1931 | .... | .... | 1245 | 1261 | — | — |
| 1932 | .... | .... | 1233 | 2744 | 114 | — |
| 1933 | .... | .... | 1281 | 2171 | 245 | — |
| 1934 | .... | ... | 1470 | 2311 | 346 | 185 |
| 1935 | .... | ... | 1151 | 2646 | 320 | 300 |

Total attendances made :

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 1931 | .... | .... | 3332 | 3697 | — | — |
| 1932 | .... | .... | 3035 | 4394 | 160 | — |
| 1933 | .... | .... | 3166 | 4846 | 385 | — |
| 1934 | .... | ... | 3888 | 5303 | 561 | 225 |
| 1935 | .... | .... | 3528 | 5238 | 598 | 487 |

SPRAY BATHS.

| Total Attendances | | Grays | Tilbury |
|-------------------|------|-------|---------|
| 1931 | .... | 2664 | 4601 |
| 1932 | .... | 2989 | 5611 |
| 1933 | .... | 3594 | 9377 |
| 1934 | .... | 1560 | 7179 |
| 1935 | .... | 975 | 9176 |

SIGHT SAVING (MYOPE) CLASS,

Quarry Hill Schools, Grays.

Every child was examined at intervals by the County's ophthalmic specialist, Mr. Aherne. It is possible that during 1936 the present class may be altered in principle. The accommodation cannot be regarded as completely satisfactory.

| | | Males | Females |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|---------|
| No. on Register at 1st Jan., 1935 | ... | 8 | 6 |
| „ admitted during the year | .... | 1 | 2 |
| „ discharged „ „ „ | .... | 1 | 2 |
| „ on Register at 31st Dec., 1935 | .... | 8 | 6 |

| <i>Reasons for Discharge.</i> | M. | F. |
|------------------------------------|----|----|
| Removed from district | 1 | — |
| Returned to elementary school | — | 1 |
| Obtained employment | — | 1 |

Classification of defects.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Myopia, myopic astigmatism | — | 3 |
| High myopia and high myopic astigmatism | 7 | 2 |
| Dislocation of lenses | — | 2 |
| Congenital cataract | 1 | — |
| Albinism, myopia, and nystagmus | 1 | — |

SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN.

This was formerly situated in the same premises as an elementary school, but was subsequently transferred to temporary premises in Hathaway Road, Grays, which have proved unsatisfactory. The future of the school is under review at present, and it is possible that considerable changes will take place during 1936.

| | Males | Females |
|--|-------|---------|
| No. on Register at 1st Jan., 1935 | 22 | 22 |
| „ of admissions during the year | 5 | 2 |
| „ „ discharges during the year | 9 | 4 |
| „ on Register at 31st Dec., 1935 ... | 18 | 20 |

Reasons for discharge.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Attained school-leaving age | 4 | 1 |
| Admitted to institutions ... | 1 | 2 |
| Left district | 2 | 1 |
| Other reasons | 2 | — |

EYE REFRACTION CLINICS.

Thanks are due to Drs. Mawson and Nelson for their work at these clinics. A number of children suffering from severe or complicated visual defects were referred to Mr. Aherne for attention.

| | Refractions | Prescriptions |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1931 | 283 | 232 |
| 1932 | 369 | 295 |
| 1933 | 427 | 349 |
| 1934 | 556 | 484 |
| 1935 | 481 | 403 |

OPEN-AIR SCHOOL.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|----|
| No. of places in the School | .... | 60 |
| „ admissions during 1935 | .... | 45 |
| „ discharges „ „ | .... | 39 |
| Admissions recommended by— | | |
| (a) School Medical Inspectors | .... | 33 |
| (b) Tuberculosis Officer | .... | 8 |
| (c) Private practitioners | .... | 4 |
| Reasons for discharge— | | |
| Maximum benefit | .... | 37 |
| Attained school-leaving age | .... | 3 |
| Left district | .... | 2 |
| Unfit for open-air school treatment | | 2 |
| Other reasons | .... | 1 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| | M. | F. |
| Highest increase in weight | lbs. | 12 lbs. |
| „ „ „ height | 2¼ in. | 3 in. |
| Average increase in weight— | 5½ lbs. | |
| „ „ „ height— | 2¼ ins. | |

My remarks of 1934 regarding the poor physique of entrants holds good for 1935. Twenty children suffering from marked anaemia were prescribed 'Haemolac' in addition to the ordinary dietary, and in this connection the remarks of the Head Teacher are of interest. Miss Schreiber says:—

“Many children who have been admitted are obviously suffering from the effects of poverty and unemployment. Ten children are actually classified under the heading of malnutrition, 34 suffer from anaemia, while several others graded as “debility” come from poor homes. It would seem that some form of school feeding is needed in the district for this reason. Children from poor homes leave this school accustomed to receiving milk, porridge, a hot midday meal, and cod-liver oil and other tonics, but there is no continuation of this treatment for them when they return to their elementary schools, with the result that many of them have to return within a short time.”

There is much truth in Miss Schreiber's comments, but from my personal knowledge of many of the families concerned, there is little doubt that the household budget, meagre though it may be, is not always used to the best advantage.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|
| Individual children treated .... | .... | 1725 |
| Total attendances of above .... | .... | 2173 |
| Extractions—Temporary .... | .... | 3658 |
| Permanent | ... | 704 |
| Fillings—Temporary | ... | 44 |
| Permanent .... | .... | 720 |
| Operations .... | .... | 100 |
| Gas cases .... | .... | 1660 |
| Local anæsthetics .... | .... | 58 |

DENTAL INSPECTIONS.

| Age Groups. | | Number Inspected. | |
|--------------|------|-------------------|-----|
| 5 to 6 years | | | 620 |
| 6 „ 7 „ | | | 623 |
| 7 „ 8 „ | | | 613 |
| 8 „ 9 „ | | | 627 |
| 9 „ 10 „ | | | 601 |
| 10 „ 11 „ | | | 651 |
| 11 „ 12 „ | | | 685 |
| 12 „ 13 „ | | | 573 |
| 13 „ 14 „ | ... | | 499 |
| 14 „ 15 „ | | | 112 |

Total 5604

Found to require treatment 4064

I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. T. G. BOUL,

School Medical Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i.) WATER.—The greater portion of the district is supplied by the South Essex Water Works Company and the supply has been adequate and satisfactory.

(ii.) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The major part of the area is connected to the Thurrock, Grays and Tilbury Joint Sewerage Board's mains.

| Year | | Number of gallons pumped |
|------|------|--------------------------|
| 1932 | .... | 452,451,000 |
| 1933 | .... | 466,862,000 |
| 1934 | .... | 468,755,000 |
| 1935 | .... | 561,577,000 |

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.—My Annual Report for the year 1934 contains a description of the above.

3. (i.) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Conversions :

| | | | |
|--|---|---|-----|
| Privies to Pail Closets | - | - | Nil |
| No. of Cesspools in the Urban District | | | 40 |
| „ Pail Closets „ „ „ | | | 56 |

(ii.) PUBLIC CLEANSING.—No alterations have taken place since my Report for 1934. The arrangements are entirely satisfactory.

(iii.) SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Dwelling Houses | .... | .... | 1374 |
| Factories and Workshops | .... | .... | 43 |
| Slaughter Houses | .... | .... | 633 |
| Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops | .... | .... | 77 |
| Bakehouses | .... | .... | 25 |
| Visits to infectious diseases premises | .... | .... | 47 |
| Shops (general) | .... | .... | 142 |
| Fried Fish Shops | .... | .... | 26 |
| Butchers ... | .... | .... | 697 |

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AT VARIOUS AGES.

| Age Groups. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Pneumonia. | Erysipelas. | Puerperal Pyrexia. | Paratyphoid Fever. | Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. | Anterior Poliomyelitis. | Totals |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Under 1 year ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1—2 years ... | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 2—3 „ ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 3—4 „ ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 4—5 „ ... | ... | 2 | .. | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 3 |
| 5—10 „ ... | 4 | 13 | .... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| 10—15 „ ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 3 |
| 15—20 „ ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 20—35 „ ... | 6 | 3 | 1 | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| 35—45 „ ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 45—55 „ ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 |
| 55—65 „ ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 65 upwards ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total ... | 18 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | ... | ... | 52 |

ALLOCATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES TO WARDS :

| Ward. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aveley | 2 | 18 |
| Purfleet | 3 | 1 |
| South Ockendon | 8 | — |
| West Thurrock | 5 | 1 |

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics have continued their work satisfactorily. The following are statistics in relation to the Clinic.

| | | |
|--|------|-----|
| Sessions held | ... | 21 |
| Total attendances | .... | 700 |
| New cases treated | .... | 114 |
| Number receiving primary Schick Test | .... | 56 |
| „ of above found (a) positive at above | | 40 |
| „ „ (b) negative „ | | 16 |
| „ omitting primary Schick Test | .... | 58 |
| „ receiving immunisation | .... | 96 |
| „ tested after immunisation | .... | 73 |
| Immunity produced after above | .... | 69 |
| Referred for further treatment | .... | 3 |
| Treatment not completed | .... | 1 |
| „ brought forward from 1934 | .... | 53 |
| Certificates of Immunity issued | .... | 124 |

Anti-toxin is available upon application either at the Public Health Department, the Council Offices, Purfleet, or the Police Station, Grays.

3. (a) CANCER.

There were 7 deaths during the year.

AGE GROUPS

| | | |
|-------------|------|---|
| 45-55 years | .... | 1 |
| 55-65 „ | .... | 2 |
| 65-75 „ | .... | 3 |
| 75 and over | .... | 1 |

(b) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1935. Local Records.

| Age Groups. | New Cases. | | | Deaths. | | |
|------------------|------------|-----|---------------|-----------|-----|---------------|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1—5 years | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 5—15 " | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| 15—25 " | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 25—35 " | 1 | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| 35—45 " | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 45—55 " | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 55—65 " | 2* | ... | ... | ... | 2* | ... |
| 65 years upwards | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total | 8* | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2* | ... |

* Indicates one unnotified case,

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Sec. 62.

No action was taken under these headings.

